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**Let Us Struggle To Remove the Threat of War
From the Korean Peninsula and Achieve a Firm
Peace**

41090002 Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean
No 7, Jul 88 pp 3-10

[Editorial article by the Editorial Bureau]

[Text] Thirty-five years have passed since the gunfire of war stopped on the Korean Peninsula.

In the last period, our people energetically launched peaceful construction under the wise leadership of the party and the leader and laid the groundwork in our country for the most advanced socialist system and established a powerful and progressive state.

Instead of drawing a lesson as they should have from their defeat in the Korean War and subsequent developments, however, the U.S. imperialists are pursuing a war policy and are pushing the dark clouds of war onto the Korean Peninsula, and moreover, they are creating a tense situation in the Asia and Pacific region.

The prevailing situation requires that we take a firm anti-imperialist stance and be alert to the ever-intensifying machinations of the U.S. imperialists and staunchly oppose them.

(1)

Our people's Fatherland Liberation War was a revolutionary war to staunchly defend our country and nation from imperialist aggression and protect world peace.

The great leader Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"Our people's Fatherland Liberation War was a fierce anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle to oppose the united forces of world reactionaries, including the U.S. imperialists, and a severe class struggle to resist the enemies of the people. ("Selected Writings of Kim Il-song" Vol 22, p 423)

The U.S. imperialists had long frenziedly tried to make a breakthrough for world domination in Korea. The provocation of the Korean War by the U.S. imperialists was a product of their adventurist war policy.

U.S. imperialism mobilized vast military forces and immense quantities of modern combat materiel and, using barbaric methods and means unprecedented in the history of warfare, they pounced on in a do or die attempt to do away with our republic in its infancy. The enemy, however, was unable to subjugate our people who rushed forward to the harsh struggle to decide their survival, firmly believing in the justness of their cause and following the militant appeal of the party and leader.

By upholding the chuche-based military thought and the wise leadership of the great leader, and fully displaying mass heroism, the heroic Korean people and the KPA [Korean People's Army] smashed the brigandish armed offensive of the U.S. imperialists and resolutely defended our republic and brilliantly protected the dignity and glory of our nation.

The great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War was a historic victory of our people, who rose to the struggle to defend the freedom and independence of the fatherland and their national sovereignty.

Protecting the fatherland from imperialist aggression is the sacred duty of the popular masses to defend national dignity and sovereignty. Our people, who had long groaned under the shackles of Japanese imperialists' colonial rule, seized power for the first time in history in the northern half of the peninsula, became the master of the country, and established a progressive social system. As soon as the armed invasion by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges began, our people, realizing through their own real experience how precious is the sovereignty of the country and the nation, became one mind and one body and rushed to the holy war to defend the revolutionary regime, the progressive social system, and the fruits of the revolution.

When the U.S. imperialists started their war of aggression in Korea, many peoples of the world expressed concern over how it would end—could a small, young country ever be a match for the powerful United States?

But by fighting, united firmly about the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our people triumphed over the difficult trials of war and dealt the U.S. imperialists a shameful, crushing defeat and brilliantly defended the sovereignty of the nation.

The Korean war taught us the precious lesson that even though the people might be from a small country, if they rush forward as one to the holy war to defend the nation's sovereignty, they can easily smash any aggressive force, no matter how powerful.

The great victory of our people in the Fatherland Liberation War was a momentous historic event that smashed to pieces the myth of U.S. power and started the scoundrels on the road to decline.

U.S. imperialism had a long history of aggressive wars and up until the Korean War they bragged that they had never been defeated and many people were filled with fear at the "might" of U.S. imperialism.

Through the Korean war, however, U.S. imperialism, for the first time in its bloody history of aggressive wars suffered a bitter defeat. And since Korea was the first country to fight against and win over U.S. imperialism,

revolutionary peoples of the world came to have faith that they could easily beat U.S. imperialism and their anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle entered an era of new upsurge.

The victory in the Korean War proves that the fortunes of war are determined not by some modern weapons or military technology, but by political-ideological superiority and strategic-tactical predominance, and that the strength of a people rallied firmly about the party and leader is more powerful than any modern weapon.

The victory of our people in the Fatherland Liberation War was a great contribution to firmly protecting the Far East outpost of socialism and defending world peace and security.

While U.S. imperialism was forcing a war on the Korean people, it was planning to invade the socialist countries of Asia and even to start a new world war. By dealing the U.S. imperialists a decisive blow and smashing their vicious plan in Korea, our heroic people and KPA were able to stoutly defend the eastern outpost of socialism and block the outbreak of a new world war, thereby contributing greatly to protecting the peace and security of the world—and particularly that of the Far East.

Throughout the entire course of the Fatherland Liberation War, all the socialist countries, including the Soviet Union and China, and many countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America denounced the barbaric war of aggression of the U.S. imperialists and sent moral and material support and encouragement to the fighting Korean people. This international support was a great encouragement to our people, who were opposing the armed invasion of U.S. imperialism, and was an important factor in isolating U.S. imperialism and expediting its political-moral defeat. Indeed, the Korean War recorded a proud history achieved by the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. united front at a high level under the banner of international solidarity.

For the past 35 years, the historic lesson left by the Fatherland Liberation War has energized the struggle of progressive peoples to check the forces of war and protect world peace.

(2)

U.S. imperialism is the ringleader which is aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula and creating the danger of a new war.

Even after a truce was achieved on the Korean Peninsula, because of the endless aggressive machinations of U.S. imperialism there has not been a single day of tranquility. While easing the situation temporarily in other areas of the world, U.S. imperialism is continuing to pursue the path of heightening tensions on the Korean Peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists, who were kicked out of the Chinese mainland and the Indochinese peninsula, seized South Korea, and, using it as a springboard, schemed to achieve its ambitions of aggression toward Asia.

Because of its natural and geographic conditions and military-strategic position, the Korean Peninsula is an important strategic point for continental aggression for the the United States and its lifeline for Asian aggression. For this reason, the U.S. aggressors turned South Korea into their complete colony and are continuously daring to carry out an uproar of aggression and war.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the KWP [Korean Workers Party], pointed out as follows:

"In particular, the U.S. imperialists are daring to carry out schemes to start a new war in Korea. The U.S. imperialists are holding on to South Korea as their colonial base in Asia and a bridgehead for continental invasion, and transformed South Korea literally into an ammunition dump, by dragging in large quantities of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, to achieve their aggressive ambitions." ("Let Us Go Forward Holding High the Banner of Marx-Leninism and Chuche Thought," monograph, pp 36-37.)

To make South Korea a stronghold for undertaking aggression against all of Korea and the Asian Continent is the immutable ulterior motive of U.S. imperialism. Because of this ambition, U.S. imperialism, above all, has greatly strengthened its military power in South Korea and turned all of South Korea into a military base for aggression. Today, some 43,000 American troops equipped with the latest murderous weapons are stationed in South Korea and modern weapons are being brought in on a large scale. The U.S. imperialists already have over 1,000 nuclear weapons of various types and their delivery systems in South Korea. They have even dragged in the notorious neutron bomb and turned all of South Korea into the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East. They have equipped the massive South Korean puppet army with the latest types of weapons and are also accelerating the indigenous production in South Korea of weapons and operational equipment.

The U.S. imperialists' war machinations are becoming more intensified because of the provocative military exercises being frequently conducted on the Korean Peninsula and surrounding waters.

The "Team Spirit" joint military exercise that the U.S. imperialists carry out every year is not a simple "annual" training exercise. It is a most adventurous "nuclear test war" predicated on a nuclear attack, and a "nuclear preparatory war."

This year again the U.S. imperialists mobilized a massive 200,000 U.S. troops and South Korean puppet soldiers and dared to carry out their aggressive war maneuvers. U.S. aggressor troops armed with the newest murderous equipment were brought in here from the United States and Hawaii, and overseas bases including Guam, Japan, and the Philippines and all military services and branches of the U.S. troops forcibly occupying South Korea, and the South Korean puppet soldiers were mobilized. Mobilizing a massive troop force and military equipment, the U.S. imperialists dared to carry out joint landing operations simulating an invasion of the northern part of the republic: river crossing exercises, naval training, aerial mobility operations, special operations aimed at disrupting rear areas, and training aimed at breaking through the military demarcation line. This shows that the "Team Spirit" war maneuvers—viewed in terms of scale or the content of its operational exercise aimed at invading our republic.

On the pretext of guaranteeing so-called "Olympic security," the U.S. imperialists kept their aircraft carrier battle group that took part in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises and the other aggressive military forces in South Korea and the surrounding waters and put the South Korean puppet troops and all the U.S. aggressor military forces—those forcibly occupying South Korea and those stationed in Japan and the Philippines—on "emergency move-out standby status" and tried to carry out a large-scale military exercise around South Korea.

Hanging out the signboard of "Olympic security," the extraordinary military ruckus being made by the U.S. imperialists and South Korean puppets shows how indiscriminately they are maneuvering to find an opportunity to accelerate their war preparations to oppose us and looking for an opportunity for an all-out assault, using the occasion of the 24th Olympiad.

Today, the U.S. imperialists' new war preparations, maneuvers, and schemes to heighten tensions on the Korean Peninsula are being boldly carried out under the pretext of a "danger of invasion of the South."

As international society recognizes, there is no "threat of southward invasion." There exists only a threat of a northward invasion. "Southward invasion" is merely a concoction made up by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets. We have declared on more than one occasion that we have no intention of "invading the South." "Threat of a southward invasion" is absurd and irrational perversity. The government of our republic has consistently advocated solving the Korea problem peacefully. We hope our people never again experience the brutality of war and the country will never again become engulfed in gunfire. Despite this, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets—like a thief

shouting "stop thief!"—are noisily kicking up a row about a nonexistent threat from the North to deceive people and justify strengthening their military power and war preparations schemes.

The situation on the Korean Peninsula is becoming more acute as a result of the vicious machinations of the U.S. imperialists who seek to drag the Japanese militarist forces deeply into a military affair that will threaten the peace of Korea.

Under the pretext of "jointly dealing" with "Olympic security," the U.S. imperialists are scheming to drag in even the military power of the Japanese Self Defense Forces and use it as a lever to complete a U.S.-Japan-South Korea military alliance.

It is expected that during the period of the Olympics in addition to the two aircraft carriers of the U.S. imperialist 7th Fleet, 170 Japanese naval vessels and several hundred military aircraft and a force of over 30,000 men will be mobilized for large-scale general naval maneuvers that will spread across our country's eastern sea.

Such a military move shows that the U.S. imperialists are trying to make a fait accompli of a military collusion between Japan and South Korea, by actively dragging Japanese aggressor forces into new war provocation maneuvers.

By actively taking part in the adventurous military commotion in advance of the 24th Olympiad, the Japanese reactionaries—who are accelerating their development into a great military power and looking for a chance for overseas expansion—are trying to achieve their ambition of a re-invasion of South Korea. The Japanese reactionaries, who have stuck their hand deeply into South Korea politically and economically, calculate that now if they can just penetrate militarily, they can easily achieve their ambition of reinvasion.

From olden times the Japanese militarists have been a shrewd, extremely cunning and dangerous aggressive force, skillful at invading other countries by riding on the coattails of bigger guys. The Japanese reactionaries must quit their game of playing like a pet dog, tryin to achieve their ambitions by nuzzling up to the armpit of their lord and master. Trying to get something by riding the war chariots of the United States is no more than a foolish, anachronistic fantasy. The days when the Japanese militarists could usurp and invade and plunder neighboring countries are gone forever. Nowadays, the war policy means only Japan's destruction. Advancing on the road of adventurous aggression and war will, above all, only invite their own destruction.

The U.S. imperialists' seizing South Korea and making the Korean Peninsula into a site for igniting a new war is intimately linked to its policy of attaching importance to Asia and the Pacific.

Today, the U.S. ruling class is saying that "The 21st Century is the age of the Pacific" and turning their spearhead of aggression to the Asian and Pacific region and checking the socialist countries and the progressive forces by "strength," and attempting to establish domination and dominion over this region.

The Asia-Pacific region is an "attractive" area of exploitation—a lifeline—to the United States. This region is an area for raw material exploitation, a commodity market, and a capital investment area indispensable to maintaining the U.S. imperialist economy.

In the Asia-Pacific region are located, together with important natural resource zones, strategic military points which U.S. imperialism regards as "key elements" to accomplish its global strategy.

For this reason, the U.S. ruling classes regard the domination and control of the Asia-Pacific region as a life-or-death requirement and a basic element of its global strategy.

The U.S. imperialists attach great importance to the Korean Peninsula in establishing supremacy and control over the Asia-Pacific region. The Korean Peninsula is an important key to achieving the U.S. policy of Asia-Pacific aggression, the locus of confrontation of the "policy of strength." The U.S. imperialists prize South Korea and its surrounding area as its "first-line base," the "front-most phalanx" of continental invasion. The notorious U.S. war maniac Dulles once likened the Korean Peninsula to a "dagger" and bragged that all you have to do is seize it and you could sever the Asian Continent and slice it up anytime you want.

All this shows that the Korean Peninsula is at this juncture the most dangerous source of a world war, a thermonuclear war, a point of sharp confrontation between the forces of peace and the forces of war.

The Korean Peninsula is literally tottering on the brink of war or peace and the Korean problem is the focus of today's international situation. Whether a new war on the Korean Peninsula can be prevented is sharply emerging as a question of whether the peace of Asia and the world can be preserved.

Blocking the danger of war on the Korean Peninsula and eliminating the source itself emerges as an urgent problem in guaranteeing the peace and safety of Asia and the world, not to mention this region.

That a new war has not broken out despite the fact that the Korean Peninsula is constantly tense is the result of our republic's peace loving policy and responsible and patient efforts. Had it not been for our people's stubborn struggle on the Korean Peninsula, the war machinations of the U.S. imperialists would have led to the outbreak of a new war a long time ago.

Despite this, the U.S. imperialists portray themselves as though they were the "protectors" of peace on the Korean Peninsula. The "protection of peace" that the U.S. imperialists clamor about is merely a contrived hullabaloo.

Devoting themselves to aggressive war preparations while laying a smokescreen of "peace" is the imperialists' hackneyed technique. The lessons of history show that hidden within the imperialists' noisy uproar about "protecting peace" is the heinous scheme of aggression and war. The imperialists' talk about "peace" covers their vicious, aggressive schemes; their objective is to try to dull the senses of the people. Imperialism, by its very nature, can never hope for "peace" and, moreover, it has never been the "apostle of peace." In particular, the U.S. imperialists are styling themselves the "protector" of peace while rushing to prepare for a war of aggression. While wearing the smile of "friendship," they stretch out their black tentacles to other countries. Concealing a word while wearing the smile of friendship is the Janus-faced stratagem of the notorious U.S. imperialists.

Today, the U.S. imperialists are deploying massive military might everywhere in the world under the signboard of "protector of peace." And on the Korean Peninsula, too, they are leading the situation toward an escalation of tensions. Under the nice-sounding sign of "peace" and "friendship" the U.S. imperialists are infiltrating the countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America and daring to carry out various plots and aggressive machinations. History shows as a profound lesson what befalls those who entertain illusions concerning the cunning "peace strategy" of the U.S. imperialists.

The unfolding of the serious situation on the Korean Peninsula gives rise to deep concerns of our people and other revolutionary and progressive peoples of the world. Unless we frustrate and smash the adventurous military buildup and new worldwide provocative maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists, we can not achieve a solid peace in Asia, nor can we guarantee the security of mankind. If the U.S. imperialist war maniacs are not dealt a blow in time and war breaks out on the Korean Peninsula, it will deteriorate, sooner or later, into a world war, a thermonuclear war.

Genuine peace can be guaranteed only by a relentless struggle by the people. The imperialists will never offer peace. Imperialists will slink about and not abandon their dirty, aggressive ambitions until they die. Without an unyielding struggle by the people, we can not smash the aggressive machinations of the imperialists and drive them out.

With sharp awareness and revolutionary determination we will scrupulously observe every movement of the enemy, and by strengthening in every way the political, economic, and military strength of the socialist fatherland, we will smash every step of the way the war

provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets and dependably protect the peace and security of Asia and the Korean Peninsula.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets must give up its policy of confrontation and war that run contrary to the trends of the times and not repeat its shameful history.

(3)

War and peace are momentous issues that determine the history of mankind. Proceeding from a sublime feeling of mission toward the cause of peace, our country—which is most severely endangered by imperialist aggression and war—has set forth a series of rational and positive proposals to prevent war and protect peace, and are struggling to achieve them.

In order to eliminate the threat of war on the Korean Peninsula and protect peace and security, we must take a firm anti-imperialist and independent stand and vigorously launch a struggle to oppose U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"In order to oppose and struggle against imperialism and all other kinds of dominationism, the newly emerging nations must firmly maintain their sovereignty." (Selections From the "Complete Works of Kim Il-song," Vol 33, p 428)

The anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle is essentially a struggle for sovereignty. Only by means of a struggle of the popular masses to achieve sovereignty is it possible to put an end to all kinds of subordination, oppression, and aggressive machinations of the imperialists.

Sovereignty is always the supreme criterion that defines the concrete, historical nature of war and peace. The rapidly changing international situation urgently requires that each country firmly maintain its sovereignty and solve the problem of war and peace from an independent point of view. Under today's situation, if sovereignty cannot be thoroughly maintained, a country can become entangled in the snare of the imperialists, regardless of subjective intent, and become their victim.

The enemy of peace on the Korean Peninsula is, as always, U.S. imperialism. And the forcible occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists is the root of all the misfortunes of our people. Therefore, maintaining an anti-imperialist stand in solving the tense situation on the Korean Peninsula means firmly struggling by opposing the endless war machinations of the U.S. imperialists and their peace-disturbing tactics.

Recognizing that the forcible occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists is a violent infringement of our nation's sovereignty and that ending it is a prerequisite

for achieving peace in Korea, and peaceful unification, our party and the government of the republic urgently demands that the U.S. troops pack up all forms of weapons, including nuclear weapons, and withdraw from South Korea without delay.

Today, in order to strengthen the anti-U.S., anti-imperialist struggle, we must more thoroughly expose the dual tactics of the U.S. imperialists and the reactionaries to fabricate two Koreas.

While clinging to their dual tactics, the U.S. imperialists are dashing about, attempting to create chaos among the good people of the world. Under the subterfuge of a relaxation of tensions, the real intent of the U.S. imperialists is to step up its preparations for war and aggression. The revolutionary peoples must deal a strong blow everywhere the U.S. imperialists stretch their evil hand, and by hacking them into pieces, must make sure that a relaxation of tension in one region does not lead to a strengthening of U.S. imperialist aggression toward a different area.

Today, the U.S. imperialists are egging on the South Korean reactionaries and are reinforcing more than ever the scheme to fabricate two Koreas. Under the active backing of the U.S. imperialists, the South Korean puppets are advocating "Northern Diplomacy" while making eyes at the socialist countries. This is a part of their plot to create two Koreas and keep our country forever divided into North and South—a traitorous maneuver to make permanent the division of the national territory. For this reason, to oppose and resist the plot to fabricate two Koreas that is being carried out by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean reactionaries is an urgent task for attaining a just solution to the Korean problem in the present period.

Actively struggling against the Japanese militarists as well as the U.S. imperialists is an important task facing us in order to guarantee lasting peace in Korea.

The struggle against Japanese militarism is a struggle to deal a blow to the most important military and political stronghold that the U.S. imperialists are relying on in Asia, and to smash the machinations of the U.S. imperialists who want to invade the whole of Korea and Asia.

Today, the Japanese reactionaries are flagrantly exposing their real face as the sworn enemies of the Korean people. Japanese militarism's threat to the peace and security of Korea is becoming greater by the day and senescent Japanese militarism—which was regenerated by U.S. imperialism, is strutting around in the southern side of the Korean Peninsula. The Japanese reactionaries, in lock-step with the U.S. imperialists' anti-republic furor, not only are viciously carrying out a policy of hostility toward the DPRK, but also are trying to play the role of an "anti-communist" bastion on the international stage, while audaciously calling themselves a "political power" and a "military power." Under these

conditions, if we underestimate the threat of Japanese militarism or fail to struggle actively against it, it could result in further aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Asia and the Pacific region, and further promote the aggressive ambitions of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries.

Astutely perceiving the aggressive nature of the Japanese militarists, our people will firmly struggle to smash their overseas expansionist scheme and policy of hostility toward our country.

If we are to stamp out the threat of war from the Korean Peninsula and firmly guarantee peace and security, we must achieve the independent, peaceful unification of the fatherland.

The unification of Korea will guarantee peace; the division of Korea will breed war. If the U.S. imperialists had not intensely pursued the forcible occupation of South Korea, and a splittist policy, today's tense situation would not have occurred.

None of the Korean people want to live divided into North and South. They oppose having the threat of war hanging heavily over them. Our people, who suffered the unprecedented ravages of the 3-year-long Korean War, keenly feel through their own personal experience just how precious peace is.

In accordance with the requirements of the obtaining situation on the Korean Peninsula and the wishes of the nation, our party and the government of the republic are devoting all their energy to solving the problem of fatherland unification independently, democratically, and by peaceful means.

The great leader, Comrade Kim Il-song, who early on set forth the three great principles of fatherland unification, explained various specific means for achieving the independent, peaceful unification of the fatherland. Our party and the government of the republic had already in 1984 proposed tripartite talks in which we and the United States and South Korea would participate. In 1986 we took the lead in refraining from conducting military exercises, and put forward proposals to hold a meeting of military authorities, to make the Korean Peninsula a nuclear-free zone and peace zone, and to hold high-level, North-South political-military talks. And in 1987, to ease the tensions that had been created on the Korean Peninsula and open a decisive phase in accelerating peaceful unification, we put forth new proposals aimed at achieving large-scale, phased arms reductions and took steps to unilaterally decrease the KPA by 100,000 troops.

All these proposals and measures to achieve peace and the peaceful unification of Korea reflect our party's firm conviction and will that we will indeed unify the divided fatherland in our generation. They are a milestone in solving the problem of Korean unification, which is the dearest wish of our nation.

However, the U.S. imperialists and the puppet clique, who are clinging tenaciously to their policy of "two Koreas," are ignoring our efforts toward peace and continuing to pursue a policy of confrontation and war while racing along a path to further intensify tensions.

Under today's existing situation, the key to a new breakthrough for fatherland unification lies in easing the tense situation and creating a sincere, fresh new atmosphere in our nation.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forth a plan this year for convening a North-South joint meeting of governmental authorities, political parties, representatives of various groups, and figures from all walks of life. And recently he proposed that bilateral or multilateral contacts and meetings be held between representatives of the various parties, factions, and people from all walks of life of North and South even before the North-South joint conference is convened.

Such proposals are fair minded proposals for national salvation which can be accepted by anyone who loves his country and nation; they are well timed, patriotic initiatives for national reconciliation and solidarity.

To fundamentally resolve the problem of unification of our country, we must solve the problem of relations between us and the United States. The United States must respond to our tripartite proposal, conclude a peace agreement with us, and immediately cease its maneuvers to block the cause of fatherland unification.

The most rational means of resolving our country's unification problem is to create a neutral and nonaligned confederal state atop a foundation in which North and South recognize each other's existence.

Today, when maneuvering by splittists at home and abroad to fabricate "two Koreas" is becoming more blatant, the significance of the plan for the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo (DCRK) set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is being brought to the fore. Our party and the government of the republic will strive unrelentingly in the future as well to establish the DCRK.

In order to wash away the threat of war from the Korean Peninsula and achieve a firm peace and peaceful unification, we must strengthen the solidarity of the anti-imperialist forces of the world.

Our people's struggle to achieve the peace and peaceful unification of Korea is becoming intimately linked with the developing peaceful forces of the peoples of the world. Today the peoples of all countries who are preventing war and yearning for world peace are focussing their deep concern on the Korean problem and sending their firm solidarity to the struggle to sweep away the threat of war from the Korean Peninsula and protect peace. In the future as well, we will express the hope that

progressive mankind and peace-loving peoples—including the people of the socialist countries—will actively support and encourage our just cause.

By dynamically launching a struggle for fatherland unification, firmly united under the banner of anti-imperialism and sovereignty with the peoples of the socialist countries, and the international working class, and the nonaligned countries, we will deter and smash the aggressive machinations of the U.S. imperialists for a new war, protecting peace, and vigorously launching a struggle for fatherland unification, and will brilliantly accomplish the national duty of revolution and our international duty.

If the U.S. imperialists continue to pursue their policy of confrontation and war on the Korean Peninsula despite the repeated warnings of the Korean people and the peace-loving peoples of the world, they cannot escape the fate of destruction.

By deterring and soundly smashing the new war provocation maneuvers and national splittist schemes of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, our party and our people, holding high the revolutionary banner of chuche thought, will inevitably complete the historic cause of firmly establishing national sovereignty on a nationwide scope.

**Revolutionary Optimism Is the Traditional
Revolutionary Spirit of Our People, Who
Victoriously Pushed Their Way Through the
Arduous and Rigorous Road of Revolution**

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[Article by Yon Hyong-muk]

[Text] Under the banner of chuche thought our people have travelled the course of glorious revolutionary struggle for over a half century. From the time the chuche revolutionary cause was pioneered in the forests of Paektu until today our people—by firmly rallying to the side of the leader and highly displaying the spirit of revolutionary optimism—have victoriously pushed ahead along the arduous and rigorous road of revolution and brilliantly accomplished the sublime mission and heavy responsibility we bear to the age and the revolution. This is one wellspring of strength that enables our people to courageously forge through any trials and difficulties with their own strength and achieve great victories and successes in revolution and construction, and the traditional revolutionary spirit of our people that firmly guarantees the completion of the chuche revolutionary cause.

Today's reality, in which socialist construction is deepening and developing to a new, higher stage, requires that all functionaries and party members and workers more highly display the spirit of revolutionary optimism

that forms the noble tradition of our people. By energetically struggling with revolutionary optimism, upholding highly the leadership of the party and the leader, we must accelerate the revolution and construction and hasten the final victory of the chuche revolutionary cause.

Revolutionary optimism is one of the noble ideological and spiritual features of communists and the popular masses who struggle for the revolutionary cause of the working class—the cause of socialism and communism.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song taught as follows:

"A belief in, and revolutionary optimism toward, communism is the noble spiritual feature of revolutionaries who struggle for communism." ("Complete Works of Kim Il-song," Vol 32, p 384)

The revolutionary cause of the working class, the cause of socialism and communism, is a holy cause aimed at achieving completely the sovereignty of the popular masses. It will take a long time to complete this cause, and we have to accomplish several stages of difficult and complex revolutionary tasks which arise successively in that process. In other words, the sovereignty of the popular masses is achieved completely through a protracted struggle that is linked by violent class struggle and massive reforms and creations.

The revolutionary cause of the working class, the cause of socialism and communism, is protracted, arduous, and complex. It advances victoriously by means of a self-sacrificing struggle of communists and the popular masses imbued with a conviction of certain victory and a spirit of revolutionary optimism. Communists and the popular masses who struggle for socialism and communism are intrinsically revolutionary optimists. Because communists and the people are imbued with a faith in certain victory and a spirit of revolutionary optimism, they bravely triumph over difficulties and trials they run up against in the course of the protracted and arduous revolutionary struggle and go on fighting staunchly to attain the victory of the revolutionary cause of the working class, the cause of socialism and communism.

Revolutionary optimism is an unyielding revolutionary spirit of firmly believing in the justness and victory of the revolutionary cause of the working class and being true to revolutionary principles even under any arduous circumstances, and with their own strength prevailing over the trials and difficulties they come to grips with on the road of construction. It is the revolutionary life ethic of always maintaining a simple and militant way of life and struggling cheerfully and vigorously. This kind of revolutionary spirit and revolutionary living style provides a firm guarantee that communists and the people will successfully accomplish their tasks, however difficult and gigantic they might be, with a lofty sense of revolution, unyielding fighting spirit, and strong will.

Revolutionary optimism is fundamentally pitted against pessimism and defeatism. If revolutionary optimism is a revolutionary thought that encourages and moves people to energetically advance toward the victory of socialism and communism, not knowing hesitation or wavering under any circumstances, with a conviction of certain victory, then pessimism and defeatism is a very harmful ideology that makes people lose hope in the future and faith in victory; makes them afraid of difficult barriers that they encounter; and makes them fall into anxiety and resignation and either abandon the road of revolution or abandon themselves to despair. Revolutionary optimism is the characteristic ideological viewpoint, and style of behavior of communists and the people who move forward with a strong faith toward a more brilliant future and victory. Pessimism and defeatism is the decadent ideological viewpoint and style of behavior of wavering elements that manifests itself in the course of revolutionary struggle against the reactionary exploiting class, which is on the brink of destruction. Because communists and the revolutionary peoples thoroughly reject pessimism and defeatism and are firmly armed with revolutionary optimism, even though conditions and environments might change, they do not waver in the least in the revolutionary struggle and construction work, but go confidently forward following the one rewarding road of revolution that is connected by struggle and advance.

Revolutionary optimism has its foundation in the steadfast belief in the certainty of the destruction of capitalism, the inevitability of the victory of socialism and communism, and the justness of the revolutionary cause. Because communists and the revolutionary peoples are aware of the justness of the cause of socialism and communism and believe firmly in the victory of the revolutionary cause, they always triumph over any and all difficulties in revolutionary struggle and construction work, managing their lives militantly, cheerfully, and energetically.

This rock-firm belief of communists and the popular masses concerning the justness of the cause of socialism and communism and the inevitability of its victory has its basic source in the absolute, firm belief in the greatness of the party of the working class and its leader.

The cause of the revolutionary cause of the working class, the cause of socialism and communism, makes the revolutionary thought of the leader the guiding principle and advances victoriously under the wise leadership of the party and the leader. Through practical struggle for socialism and communism, communists and the people deeply comprehend the greatness of the party and the leader and the wisdom of their leadership. And in that process they come to firmly believe in the bright future of the revolutionary cause and in its victory. The greatness of the party and the leader and their wise leadership is the wellspring of strength that makes communists and the people always fight dynamically with strong faith in victory in the arduous revolutionary struggle and the gigantic construction work.

Upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our people cherish deep in their hearts the belief in certain victory and the noble spirit of revolutionary optimism in the process of carrying out the revolution following the leadership of the glorious party.

From the time we were blessed with the great Comrade Kim Il-song as the sun of the nation and the leader of the revolution, our people's revolutionary optimism has been an unwavering credo cherished deep in their hearts.

Having the genius of revolution, the great Comrade Kim Il-song, as our leader at the dawn of the Korean revolution was the highest honor, the greatest happiness for our people. The respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song, who our people welcomed for the first time in their several thousand-year history, is the great ideological theorist who created the immortal chuche thought. He is the great supreme leader who leads the revolutionary cause of chuche along the straight and correct road of victory. Standing in the vanguard of revolution in a period when the fortunes of the country and the nation were very bleak and the Korean revolution had repeatedly suffered only bitter failures, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song broke ground for the bright future of the Korean revolution and opened up a new era of socialism and communism in our country. From that time forward our people have firmly believed in the future of the revolution and traversed the one road of proud victory, cherishing deep in their hearts the noble spirit of revolutionary optimism.

Through ever-victorious, glorious struggle in revolution and construction, our people's spirit of revolutionary optimism has become their unwavering belief. Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, our people achieved shining victory in two revolutionary wars and two social revolutions and massive economic construction. In this process our people comprehended deep in their hearts the greatness of the respected and beloved leader and came to cherish as an unwavering article of faith the belief that they would always be ever-victorious on the road of advance, following the leadership of the supreme leader and the spirit of revolutionary optimism.

Our people's spirit of revolutionary optimism is becoming even more unswerving in the historic march that is converting the entire society to chuche thought under the refined leadership of the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il is the clear-sighted leader who put forth the militant program concerning converting the entire society to chuche thought and is energetically leading our party and people in the struggle to complete the chuche revolutionary cause pioneered by the great leader. Today our people are looking forward with confidence to the bright future of the revolution and the brilliant future of the fatherland under the shining

wisdom and refined leadership of Comrade Kim Chong-il, the great organizer and leader of the struggle to complete the *chuche* revolutionary cause, and are advancing dynamically filled with faith and optimism.

Revolutionary optimism is the traditional revolutionary spirit of our people that was highly displayed in the course of fighting their way through the arduous and severe trials of revolution and construction and moving forward.

The degree of firmness and thoroughness in this faith in victory and spirit of revolutionary optimism manifests itself in a period of difficult trials. In the course of revolutionary struggle—in which we must press ahead through long, unfamiliar, untrodden paths—there are both favorable and unfavorable circumstances. When the revolutionary situation is favorable and victory is seen as certain, no one is disillusioned or hesitates. But in times of dark trials, there are stragglers who lose faith and waver according to the trends and the overall situation and who later desert the road of revolution.

Through severe revolutionary struggle that decides the life or death fate of the fatherland and the nation, Korean communists and the people have shown fully their unwavering revolutionary faith under any unfavorable circumstances, their revolutionary integrity, and their strong will to emerge victorious over myriad difficulties and trials. This is a shining example of revolutionary optimism that communist revolutionaries and the people must possess.

Our people's spirit of revolutionary optimism was most sublimely exemplified by the young communists who fought at the dawn of the Korean revolution and the real revolutionary martyrs in the anti-Japanese armed struggle.

The dawning of the Korean revolution was really an arduous and harsh period. Japanese imperialism, which forcibly occupied Korea, strengthened unprecedentedly its colonialistic exploitation and plunder of our people while frenziedly engaging in continental aggression, and the nationalist movement and early communist movement in our country experienced one failure after the other. Under the circumstances prevailing at that time it was difficult to believe that Korea would ever be able to gain its independence, and even more impossible to know when it would become independent.

However, young communists such as Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su fought and sacrificed their lives with the revolutionary faith that when they looked up to the great Comrade Kim Il-song—who stood at the van of revolution, as the leader of the Korean revolution, the sun of the people—and believed only in the leader, they would inevitably triumph. Through the bloody struggles of the young communists, was created in our country the

precious tradition of revolutionary optimism in which people unite firmly around the leader and advance tenaciously toward the victory of the revolution.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle, which occupies a shining place in the overall course of the Korean revolution, was an arduous revolutionary struggle without historical precedent and a glorious path of struggle that displayed the model of noble revolutionary optimism. The anti-Japanese guerrillas had to solve everything by themselves under conditions, even though they had neither rear area nor support of regular armed forces, while fighting against the powerful Japanese imperialists. Holding high the banner of revolution and fighting under these adversities—relentlessly pursued by the enemy and repeatedly surrounded, vulnerable to cunning and vicious, deceptive conciliatory schemes, exposed to freezing winds and raging cold, and cruel hunger—indeed was something that far surpasses the imagination.

Under these harsh trials our anti-Japanese revolutionary forefathers, who went forth on the road of revolution following the great general, were never in the least pessimistic or disappointed. With faith in certain victory, they met the difficulties and trials head on. In the arduous struggle they had to advance through life or death crises and perils at every step. And even when they were behind prison bars or on the scaffold they looked ahead confidently to the victory of the revolution. They fought, not hesitating to sacrifice their youth and their very lives for the liberation of the fatherland and the brilliant future of the people. The revolutionary spirit of the anti-Japanese forefathers who fought cherishing the conviction of certain victory even under the most adverse circumstances is the most sublime exemplar of revolutionary optimism; it is a precious revolutionary spirit that will have perpetual vitality until the ultimate victory of socialism and communism is achieved.

The spirit of revolutionary optimism that was highly demonstrated in the harsh trials of the Korean revolution became an important motive force that enabled our people display their pride as a heroic people.

The three-year war inflicted on us by the U.S. imperialists was the most severe trial to our fledgling republic, which had only just gained its national independence. In an effort to wipe out our republic in its infancy, U.S. imperialism mobilized vast military forces armed with the latest equipment and employed all manner of savage means and methods of war.

However, our KPA officers and men and the people, with unswerving conviction that they would inevitably triumph because they had the great leader and the party, and with a spirit of revolutionary optimism, dealt an annihilating blow to the U.S. imperialist aggressors. The defenders of Hill No. 1211—who even today still tower proudly as a symbol of the heroic spirit of the Korean people—upholding the order of the comrade supreme

commander not to give up even one inch of ground, rose like phoenixes on that ghastly battlefield where boulders had been smashed to powder and the ground was scorched, and smashed the enemy's final offensive and defended to the end that hill of the fatherland. The conviction in certain victory, the spirit of unyielding struggle, mass heroism, and an optimistic life ethos were the noble ideological and spiritual traits of the heroes of Hill No. 1211 and the sublime expression of revolutionary optimism. By highly displaying precisely this kind of spirit of revolutionary optimism at all outposts along the front lines and in the rear areas, our KPA and our people humiliated the arrogant U.S. imperialists—who had boasted of being the "strongest" in the world—and brought glory to heroic Korea. Our victory in the Fatherland Liberation War proved that when all the people united about the party and the leader have faith in certain victory and a spirit of revolutionary optimism, they can triumph over any trials and achieve shining victories.

After the war, revolutionary optimism, which is our people's traditional revolutionary spirit, was again highly displayed. In the formidable struggle of reconstruction, our people were not dismayed by the barren ground where only ashes remained, but stood tall and constructed a mighty socialist state in our land.

The postwar reconstruction and socialism building in our country was an arduous struggle in which we had to triumph over difficult trials no less harsh than in the war. After the war we did not have even one single brick intact. All that remained was a pile of ashes. Our situation was so bad that it was difficult to figure out where to start and what we should do, and if we should ever lose heart we would never be able to rise from the ashes.

The situation was all too difficult, but our people were never discouraged. With firm belief that as long as they had the wise leadership of the great leader they could build a new life, our people got down to the business of postwar reconstruction and socialism-building with the vigor that had brought them victory in the war.

The people's revolutionary optimism in the period of socialism-building can be seen in their stubborn will and burning enthusiasm to accomplish without fail—with their own efforts, without wavering or hesitation—whatever difficult economic tasks the party put forth, the spirit of economic self-reliance, the revolutionary spirit of struggle in adversity; and the militant aggressive spirit of not being satisfied with results achieved, but going ahead endlessly creating new leaps forward and new innovations. By struggling dynamically with precisely this kind of revolutionary spirit, with 2-3 years our people had finished their reconstruction work on the empty lots and completed the massive First 5-Year Plan in two and a half years. And in the short space of just 14 years after the war they had brilliantly accomplished the historic feat of industrialization that had taken others

one century or even several centuries to achieve. The proud history of the great upswing of socialist construction in our country and the chollima movement is a heroic epic created by the wisdom of the leadership of the great leader, who transformed adversity into good fortune and calamity into happiness, and by the unanimous struggle of our people, who advanced stubbornly toward the bright future of the revolution, united firmly about the leader. By means of a formidable struggle of the entire people, who go ahead doing everything in our own style, absolutely convinced of the justness of the party's line and policy, we were able to erect gigantic creations such as the Sohae Lockgate in 5 years. And today new victories and successes are being created one after the other in the accomplishment of the Third 7-Year Plan and the grandiose 200-day battle, which will achieve decisive transformations in the struggle for the complete victory of socialism.

All of this shows clearly that revolutionary optimism is a great revolutionary spirit that enables our people to push ahead victoriously on the arduous and rigorous road of revolution, and is the wellspring of immortal strength that enables them to achieve endless advances in revolution and construction.

The revolutionary task that confronts us today and the situation created in our country requires that all functionaries and party members and workers possess faith in certain victory and highly display the spirit of revolutionary optimism.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Standing Committee of the Central Committee of the WPK and Secretary of the Central Committee, indicated as follows:

"Today a brilliant future is unfolding before our party and our revolutionary struggle is becoming more fruitful. We should not be self-satisfied about our victory, but continue to struggle dynamically toward new victories." ("The WPK is the Revolutionary Party of the Chuche Kind That Has Inherited the Glorious Tradition of the 'Down With Imperialism Union.'" monograph, p 39)

Our revolution, which began a half a century ago under the banner of the great chuche idea, has indeed advanced far while victoriously opening up the complex and ordeal-ridden, unexplored path. Our people have reached the top of the high mountain pass from which can be clearly seen the complete victory of socialism and the ultimate victory of our revolution. However, the road we still must traverse is long and the future road of revolution is as arduous and perilous as before. Before us lies the gigantic task of achieving the complete victory of socialism and of transforming the entire society into chuche thought and—more urgently—of successfully accomplishing the Third 7-Year Plan. The situation that has been created in our country is also very complex and

strained. The U.S. imperialists, the Japanese reactionaries, and the South Korean puppet clique are continuing to feverishly oppose our republic and viciously carrying out new war provocation maneuvers while launching large-scale war exercises in South Korea.

In order to take the initiative in coping with the situation that has been created in our country and successfully accomplish the gigantic task that confronts our people, all functionaries and party members and workers should cherish even more deeply the faith in certain victory and continue to struggle tenaciously, filled with revolutionary optimism.

What is important here is to go on brilliantly inheriting the spirit of revolutionary optimism that was displayed in the arduous periods of our revolution.

That our people won in the fight against the Japanese imperialists in the period of anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and triumphed in the struggle to oppose the U.S. imperialists in the period of the Fatherland Liberation War was certainly not because we were more superior in military equipment. Nor was the fact that we carried out the work of rebuilding the people's economy atop the piles of ashes in the post war period because we had some great amount of capital. That our people were able to achieve shining victories in revolution and construction in those arduous times was because they struggled tenaciously with faith in certain victory and a spirit of revolutionary optimism. This shows that indeed the spirit of revolutionary optimism that was highly displayed in the arduous periods of our revolution is a precious revolutionary spirit that we must inherit brilliantly across the board until we achieve the ultimate victory of the chuche revolutionary cause. Party organization and functionaries must intensify the ideological indoctrination work among party members and workers and make them all learn from the faith in certain victory and the indomitable spirit possessed by the young communists who fought in the dawning period of the Korean revolution and by their revolutionary forefathers who participated in the anti-Japanese armed struggle. And they must they must actively lead them to accomplish the grandiose tasks put forth by the party without fail, following the example of the spirit of revolutionary optimism displayed by the defenders of Hill No. 1211 in the period of the fierce Fatherland Liberation War.

Faith in certain victory and revolutionary optimism are the revolutionary spirit born from and based upon a belief in the indomitable strength of one's fatherland and one's nation. The stronger and more powerful a nation, the stronger its faith.

Today the strength of our fatherland and our people is vast. We are carrying out the revolutionary struggle and construction work under conditions incomparably more favorable than those in the period of the Fatherland Liberation War or the period of postwar reconstruction.

We have the ever-victorious party, a powerful revolutionary spirit, the most superior socialist system, as well as a solid, independent national economy capable of making everything on its own.

Party organizations must actively push the functionaries, party members, and workers to continue to struggle hard, filled with faith and optimism, and to have pride and self-esteem in the infinite strength of our people. Under the indomitable might of our fatherland—in which the entire party and all the people are rallied about the party and the leader and united as one—and the wise leadership of the party and leader, our people set up a powerful socialist state that enjoys sovereignty, is economically self-sustaining, and is capable of its own self-defense, here in this land that had been dominated for centuries by only backwardness and poverty. And they must be proud of the reality of our country today, which is advancing dynamically toward a more brilliant future.

The faith in certain victory and revolutionary optimism of communists and the people manifests itself in the absolute faith in the justness of the party's line and policy and the actual struggle to implement them unconditionally to the very end. The objective of indoctrinating party members and workers so that they possess more deeply the spirit of revolutionary optimism lies in trying to achieve new, greater victories and advances in revolution and construction, thoroughly implementing the party's line and policy.

All functionaries and party members and workers must create new miracles and feats in the struggle to accomplish the Third 7-Year Plan, with high confidence that they can and must unconditionally occupy the grandiose goals of socialist construction being set forth by our party today. Most urgently, we must uphold the letter and slogans of the Central Committee and continue to spur on the grand march to accomplish ahead of schedule the 200-day battle tasks and achieve once again a great upswing in socialist construction and glorify the 40th anniversary of the founding of the republic as a great, pride-filled festival of victors.

Having the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in the van of the revolution and following the guidance of the glorious party, our future is brilliant and before us lies only the promise of victory and glory.

All functionaries, party members, and workers must rally more firmly than ever before to the party Central Committee headed by the great Comrade Kim Il-song and, by advancing dynamically with our people's traditional spirit of revolutionary optimism, actively contribute to hastening the complete victory of socialism and the independent, peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Possessing High Revolutionary Spirit and Combat Capabilities Is an Intrinsic Demand of the Working Class and a Decisive Guarantee for the Victory in the Revolution

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 17-22

[Article by Kang Song-san; not translated]

The Great Victory Won Through the Outstanding Leadership and Mass Heroism

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 23-28

[Article by Yun Chi-ho; not translated]

It Is the Revolutionary Spirit of the Functionaries To Invariably Adhere to Party Policy and To Thoroughly Implement It

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 29-33

[Article by Hong Si-hak; not translated]

The Shining Tradition of the Unity of Blood Between the Leader, Party, and Masses

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 34-39

[Article by O Chae-won; not translated]

The 200-Day Campaign and the Mass Political Work

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 40-45

[Article by Kim Song-tae; not translated]

Party Functionaries Should Ceaselessly Think and Boldly Practice

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 46-51

[Article by Pak Pyong-chun; not translated]

Electricity Is the Main Driving Force of the Modern Industry, and Is the Harbinger of the People's Economy

Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean No 7, Jul 88 pp 52-55

[Article by Choe Chong-yoi; not translated]

Effecting a New Turn in the Development of Fisheries Is an Important Economic Task Facing Us

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[Article by Choe Pok-yon; not translated]

Developing Foreign Trade Is an Important Requirement for Strengthening the Economic Self-Reliance of the Country and Its Might

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[Article by Kim Pok-sin; not translated]

Carrying Out the Organizational and Commanding Work in Production Responsibly Is the Main Mission of the Economic Guidance Functionaries

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[Article by Chong Sun-ku; not translated]

The Brilliant Artistic Picturization of the Greatness of Our Party—On the Novel 'The Morning Sun'

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[Article by Kang Nung-su; not translated]

Checking and Smashing the U.S. Imperialists' Schemes for Two Koreas Are the Urgent Tasks for the Reunification of the Fatherland

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[Article by Chong I-kun; not translated]

The South Korean Society Is the Most Reactionary and Corrupt Society

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[Article by Choe Tae-chin; not translated]

The Palestinian Issue Should Be Settled According to the Demands and Interests of the Arab Peoples

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[Article by Kim Yong-sop; not translated]

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